(b) the names of the Panchayat headquarters in Orissa where these telephones have been installed;

(c) whether Government have a proposal to provide telephone facility to every village in the country;

(d) if so, the target date fixed therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to achieve that target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHIR SUKH RAM): (a) As on 31st October, 1995, the number of public telephones installed at the Panchayat headquarters in Orissa is 4946. The number of such telephones in the former undivided Koraput district is 481.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Government have adopted National Telecom Policy during the year 1994 which envisages provision of public telephone facility to every village in the country by the year 1997 progressively.

(e) Plans have been drawn out for making necessry resources available to meet the target of providing 1,05,000 village public telephones during the current financial year. For the subsequent period, plans are being formulated on the basis of techno-economic survey for providing public telephone facility to the remaining villages. Private operators, proposed to be licenced in the near future, shall have a special obligation to link villages with public telephones.

गैर-सरकारी संस्थाओं/व्यक्तियों द्वारा वन भूमि का विकास किया जाना

*144. **श्री शिवचरण सिंह:** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार गैर-सरकारी संस्थाओं और व्यक्तियों को वन-भूमि के विकास हेतु वन-भूमि आवंटित कर रही है अथवा करने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किस आधार पर उक्त भूमि को आवंटित किया जाता है और इस संबंध में नियम क्या है;

(ग) वर्ष 1992 से 1995 तक की अवधि के दौरान राजस्थान और उत्तर प्रदेश में वन-भूमि के विकास हेतु किन-किन गैर-सरकारी संस्थाओं और व्यक्तियों को कितनी वन-भूमि आवंटित की गई है; और

(घ) उसका क्षेत्र-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री राजेश पायलट): (क) और (ख) गैर-सरकारी निकायों तथा व्यक्तियों को कोई वन-भूमि विकसित करने के लिए आवंटित नहीं की गई अथवा आवंटित करने का प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

(ग) और (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Identification of Inland Waterways as National Waterways

*145. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Inland Waterways identified as National Waterways;

(b) whether there is any proposal to declare some more waterways as National Waterways;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether inland waterways are being utilised properly;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government for the better utilisation of inland waterways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY): (a) The details of the National Waterways identified and declared as such by the

Government are given below:—

NW.1 — Allahabad-Haldia stretch (1620 kms) of the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hoogly river system (1986).

NW.2 — Sadiya-Dhubri stretch (891 kms) of Brahmputra (1988).

NW.3 — Kollam-Kottapuram stretch (168 kms) of the West Coast Canal alongwith Champakara Canal (14 kms.) and Udyogmandal Canal (23 kms) (February, 1993).

(b) and (c) There is a proposal to declare the following three waterways as National Waterways:—

(i) Cherla-Rajahmundry stretch (208 Kms.) along with its navigable delta canals.

(ii) Mandovi (41 Kms.), Zuari (64 Kms.) rivers and Cumbarjua canal (17 Kms.) in Goa.

(iii) The International Steamer Route (191 Kms.) between Sagar and Bangladesh border in Sunderbans.

(d) and (e) For their better utilisation, the three National Waterways are being further developed by the Inland Waterways Authority of India. The developmental schemes undertaken by the IWAI include provision of infrastructural facilities such as fairway with adequate depth, terminals, night navigational facilities.

(f) The steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for the utilization of National Waterways are as under:—

(i) Grant of loan interest subsidy scheme:

(ii) Handing over two vessels to Goa Barge Entrepreneurs' Association in National Waterway No. 1 without hire charges for one year, under the IWT promotion scheme;

(iii) Compensation @ 10 paise per tonne kilometer until infrastructural facilities are fully developed in National Waterways No. 1 and 2.

To accelerate the developmental programmes, the IWAI has also formulated a scheme for private particiapation.

Citizen Band Radio Facility to Schools and Rural areas under MPLADS

*146. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:
SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Citizen Band Radio facility can now be given under MPLADS to schools, rural areas etc.;

(b) if so, what is the exact procedure by which Licences can be obtained by such schools;

(c) in what manner can the procedure be simplified so that the school can get quick be efit under MPLADS; and

(d) how this scheme can be made more popular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Licence can be obtained by submitting an application on the prescribed proforma to the Ministry of Communications and on payment of requisite fees.

(c) The procedure is already simplified for rural areas by minimising inter-agency clearances for grant of such licences.

(d) Effective demonstrations in schools, colleges, village panchayats etc. and